

British Columbia, Canada

NEWS RELEASE

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POLICE COMPLAINT COMMISSIONER ORDERS A REVIEW ON THE RECORD

VICTORIA - The Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner (OPCC) has ordered a review into the findings of a discipline proceeding relating to allegations of Abuse of Authority, Discreditable Conduct, Neglect of Duty, and Deceit against a Vancouver police officer.

Vancouver Police Department (VPD) Constable Jag Ghuman was investigated for allegations stemming from an incident with three complainants that occurred on April 30, 2018. The complainants alleged that two Vancouver Police officers used excessive force against two of the complainants during an arrest.

The matter was investigated by the Delta Police Department and during a subsequent administrative Discipline Proceeding, Constable Ghuman was found to have committed discreditable conduct, in relation to his failure to provide fulsome information on a submitted Report to Crown Counsel, and deceit, in relation to providing contradictory oral and written evidence during the *Police Act* investigation. Other allegations relating to the arrest, use of force, and provision of Charter Rights to one of the complainants were found not to be substantiated.

Constable Ghuman disputed the finding that he committed misconduct and requested that the OPCC arrange a Review on the Record.

In his Notice of Review issued today, the Police Complaint Commissioner determined that a Review on the Record is necessary in the public interest. The Honourable James Threlfall, retired Provincial Court Judge, will preside as the adjudicator of the Review on the Record, which has yet to be scheduled.

Updates on the review will be shared on the OPCC website.

The full notice of review is available here.

About the OPCC and Reviews on the Record:

- The Police Complaint commissioner is a civilian, independent Officer of the Legislature overseeing complaints, investigations and discipline involving municipal police in British Columbia. For more on the OPCC, visit https://opcc.bc.ca/about-us/
- Discipline Authorities are generally senior ranking police officers who are required under the *Police Act* to make determinations regarding the investigation and discipline of police officers alleged to have committed misconduct.
- A Review on the Record is a form of adjudicative review in which the adjudicator, a Retired Judge, conducts a "paper review" of all evidence and materials from the investigation and discipline hearing. The adjudicator may also receive submissions from the respondent's counsel, the Police Complaint Commissioner's counsel, the complainant and the Discipline Authority before rendering his/her decision. More on the OPCC's involvement in and processes for complaints involving police and misconduct allegations: https://opcc.bc.ca/police-faq/
- An adjudicator must determine whether there is misconduct and, if so, determine the corrective or disciplinary measures to be imposed. The adjudicator's decision at a Review on the Record is final and conclusive.

Note to media: The OPCC is unable to comment on this review while it is underway. For general queries related to the OPCC's role and processes, please contact:

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Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner